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SIPDIS

FOR NEA, S/SAGSWA, AND P

E.O. 12958: DECL: 03/13/2019

TAGS: PGOV PHUM EUN PREL IR NO

SUBJECT: (S) NORWEGIANS WILL RAISE SABERI ISSUE WITH
IRANIAN CHARGE

REF: STATE 30046

Classified By: Political Counselor Kristen Bauer for reasons 1.4(b) and
(d)

¶1. (S) Poloff discussed reftel points at length with the acting director of the Mid-East Section of the MFA, Ingrid Schøyen. Schøyen said that Norway finds it nearly impossible to obtain meetings with officials in Tehran, and furthermore that the workings of Iranian government are extremely opaque. The GON feels it has in the past worked productively with the Iranian Embassy in Oslo, for example on cases where the Norwegians were working to prevent, on humanitarian grounds, stonings of people accused of crimes in Iran. Schøyen, while noncommittal on the outcome, promised to convey our message to the current Charge d'Affaires, with whom the MFA has a good working relationship.

WHITNEY